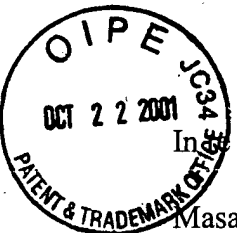


#5/A
11-217-81



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Masaaki NANAUMI et al

Serial No.: 09/897,426

ATTN: BOX MISSING PARTS

Confirmation No. 8333

Atty. Docket No. 107348-00127

Filed: July 3, 2001

For: ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE/ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY
OF SOLID POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 22, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

NOT
Entered
1.128

Page 7, please amend the second paragraph to read as follows:

-- A sulfonated PEEK having an ion-exchange capacity I_c equal to 1.1 meq/g as in
EXAMPLE I was prepared as a polymer ion-exchange component, and a membrane having a
thickness of 50 μ m and formed using a sulfonated PTFE similar to that described above and having
1.1 meq/g was prepared as an electrolyte membrane 2. --